



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1616

Examiner: R. Dewitty

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For: DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM

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thereof is enclosed. Additionally, U.S. Patent No. 5,840,055 appears to be an English language equivalent of WO 96/15724.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 2, 2003

By: 

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